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LIBRARY SCHOOL NOTES

PUBLISHED BY THE
LIBRARY SCHOOL OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

VOLUME 7

MAY, 1920

NUMBER 3

ALUMNI DINNER

The annual meeting and dinner of the Alumni Association of the Library School of the New York Public Library will be held at the Park Avenue Hotel Thursday evening, June 10th, at 6:30 o'clock. We have been fortunate in securing a rate of \$2.50 per cover for the dinner, a rate lower than that obtainable at this time at any other first-class hotel.

A large attendance is desired, both of graduates and undergraduates, as important matters in connection with the future work of the school and a possible reorganization plan for the Alumni Association will be discussed. Please make reservations with Miss Johanna Olschewsky, 2678 Valentine Avenue, New York City, not later than Saturday, June 5th.

FORREST B. SPAULDING
President of Alumni Association

COMMENCEMENT

The commencement exercises will take place at 11 a. m. on Friday, June 11th, in Room 213 of the Central Building. Professor Azariah S. Root, librarian of Oberlin College Library, who while on leave from Oberlin held the principalship of the School for one year following Miss Plummer's death, will give the address.

ADVANCED COURSES

The advanced courses for 1920-21 will be offered on much the same plan as in 1919-20, with the addition of new lectures and

lecturers. Alumni are asked to make it clear to enquirers that the requirements of these courses have been in no degree lessened, and that their concentration in the three-month period has made possible an amount of outside study which assures the thorough and scholarly nature of the work. For example, students are expected not only to attend class meetings and to supplement this by readings, problems, quizzes, and examinations, but to be prepared for problems of a practical kind. In 1919-20 these included devising and conducting a programme for a round table, mapping out an outline of lectures on vertical filing, framing an examination for use in connection with a graded library service, and the choice of a collection of children's books for the use of English and American children in a foreign country. Moreover, the preparation of a thesis or a bibliography may be elected, as may also less extensive studies, such as one on great European reference collections made in the year just closing. The Faculty has so shaped the courses that they add materially to the equipment of the person who has had one year of library school study. Practical work enters in to the extent that the award of the diploma in June is conditioned upon satisfactory staff reports for the periods from September to December, inclusive, and in April and May. Abundant testimony on the part of former senior students indicates that there is a place for this work, and that it is worth while professionally. The School is eager to hear from former one-year students who contemplate returning, as well as from persons who hold certificates from other library schools, and it will be ready soon to furnish details about the plans for the coming year. Two-year students who may wish to register for courses which they were unable to take in their own senior days will also be welcome.

RECRUITS NEEDED

The library profession needs workers and the Library School needs students. Those who are in charge of library staffs are having difficulty in keeping them filled. Opportunities in new library enterprises and in the business world are diverting both those who are already in the profession and those who might en-

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WORK OF THE COUNCIL: A circular letter and forms to be used in collecting local and state library information will shortly be mailed to the Regional Chairmen. All former students are urged to help make this survey valuable. — Katharine M. Christopher, Chairman of Alumni Council.

OFFICERS: There have been a number of recent changes in the officers of the Association. At present they are as follows: Minerva E. Grimm, acting president; Philena A. Dickey, first vice-president; Susan M. Molleson, secretary; Grace L. Cook, treasurer. These officers are ex-officio members of the Alumni Council, of which the other members are Katharine M. Christopher, chairman, Eleanor ff. Duncan, Sheldon Fletcher, Florence E. Foshay, Grace Hardie, Mary J. Schieffelin, Mary L. Osborn, Edith W. Tiemann and Elizabeth N. Prall.

THE PLUMMER FUND: The class which received certificates last June recently made a notable contribution to the Mary Wright Plummer Memorial Loan Fund. Seventy dollars were collected among the members of the class and turned over to the treasurer. This makes a material addition to the fund, the total of which is now more than \$750.

THE VAN VALKENBURGH MEMORIAL: The total collections for the Van Valkenburgh fund now amount to \$344.94. The disposition of this fund will be discussed at the annual meeting of the Alumni Association in June.

THE SCHOOL'S FIRST DECADE

In June, 1921, the Library School will have completed its first ten years of work. Although ours is one of the younger library schools, it already possesses what is a great asset to any professional school — a

loyal and alert alumni body scattered over a wide territory. At the close of the current year it will have sent out approximately 300 certificate holders, and 160 students who, in addition to completing the work of the junior year here or at some other library school, have pursued the second year's study. A recent compilation shows that our former students are now located as follows:

New York City - - 136	OTHER STATES, <i>continued</i>	OTHER STATES, <i>continued</i>
New York State - 17	Iowa - - - - 7	South Dakota - - 1
(not including city)	Kentucky - - - - 2	Texas - - - - 5
OTHER STATES	Maine - - - - 1	Virginia - - - - 1
Alabama - - - - 4	Maryland - - - - 2	Washington - - - 8
Arkansas - - - - 1	Massachusetts - - 6	West Virginia - - 1
California - - - - 10	Michigan - - - - 10	Wisconsin - - - - 1
Canal Zone - - - - 1	Minnesota - - - - 12	FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Colorado - - - - 1	Missouri - - - - 2	Brazil - - - - 1
Connecticut - - - - 14	Nebraska - - - - 3	Canada - - - - 1
District of Columbia 9	New Jersey - - - 14	China - - - - 3
Georgia - - - - 2	North Dakota - - 2	Finland - - - - 1
Hawaii - - - - 3	Ohio - - - - 16	France - - - - 3
Idaho - - - - 3	Oregon - - - - 6	Japan - - - - 1
Illinois - - - - 2	Pennsylvania - - 9	Norway - - - - 1
Indiana - - - - 4	Philippine Islands - 1	Peru - - - - 1
	South Carolina - - 1	Sweden - - - - 2

This represents an effective body of workers and substantial support, as well as an influence which has made the School known in practically every part of the world in which library work is at all active.

SCHOOL SERVICE TO ALUMNI

There are constantly being received at the Library School visits and letters from former students who wish information or advice on professional matters. Sometimes these calls take the form of requests for references to literature affecting library work, while sometimes they are inquiries regarding professional prospects, or about possible changes of position. The custom of the alumni of calling upon the School is a thing which the School wishes especially to encourage. It is increasingly able to give assistance as it grows older, and as the relations between it and the Alumni Association become closer. It is earnestly hoped that all former students will think of the School in this connection, and that they will feel free to consult the Principal and Faculty about their own work and upon questions that concern them professionally; and that on the other hand they will give the School and the Alumni Association the advantage of whatever information they may have which would be of value to other former students. This will help to make the School a clearing house in matters of common interest to the alumni generally.

LIBRARIANS NEEDED

The libraries of the country still need workers, and most of the library schools can accommodate more students than they have had for some years. The recruiting must be done by librarians throughout the country. If you know of any young men or women who show promise of success in library work, please take up the matter with them and report their names to the Library School.

SENIOR COURSES

The instructional period of the senior year's work opened on Monday, February 7th. Five students are registered as candidates for the diploma in June, while nine others are attending individual courses but will not complete their work this year. The candidates for the diploma include two students from the Library School of The New York Public Library, one from Drexel Institute Library School, and two from the University of Washington Library School.

COURSES OPEN TO EXPERIENCED LIBRARY WORKERS

As formerly announced, properly qualified auditors are admitted this year, as last, to certain of the senior courses. The class registrations of auditors number 164. The courses in *Art and the Book*, *School Library Work*, and *Business Library Methods* are proving particularly popular, these three courses accounting for over half of the total attendance, not including those coming to the course in *Book Selection*. The latter is open to all librarians and their friends who are interested, and consequently no record of registration in it is kept. The speakers are Miss Hannah C. Ellis, Mr. George A. Hastings, Dr. John Kelman, Mr. Allen T. Burns, Mr. S. K. Ratcliffe, Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons, Miss Ida Tarbell, Dr. Wm. H. Kilpatrick, Miss Corinne Bacon, Mr. Henry Seidel Canby, Mr. Frank I. Cobb, Mr. Lowell Brentano.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SOCIAL HOURS

At the Wednesday afternoon social hours so far this year, the School and its friends have heard Miss Mary Frank, Miss Amelia Josephine Burr, Mr. Harry Franck, Mr. Clinton Scollard, Mr. Hamlin Garland, and Mr. Padraic Colum. On successive Wednesday afternoons in January Mr. Charles F. D. Belden, Librarian of the Boston Public

Library and Miss Linda A. Eastman, Librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, addressed the junior class, and were guests at the four o'clock social hours.

OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN PERU

Word recently received from Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Spaulding tells of a very pleasant journey to Lima, where they arrived about the middle of January. They report finding an enjoyable environment and congenial friends in their new home.

APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONAL NOTES

Louise Boerlage, 1916-18, assistant librarian, United States Public Health Service, Ellis Island, New York.

Helen McKay Campbell, 1915-16, was married on November 18, 1920, to Herman Carl Willman. Mr. and Mrs. Willman will reside at 1074 South Corona Street, Denver, Colorado.

Ruth Edmonds, 1917-18, was married on December 2nd to Albert F. Stoll. Mr. and Mrs. Stoll's address is 165 Park Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey.

Marjorie Fisher, 1917-18, verifier of names and dates for the revision of Larned's History for Ready Reference, which is being prepared by the Nichols Publishing Company.

Beatrice Freer, 1913-14, assistant librarian, Helen Frick Art Library, New York City.

Eleanor Hitt, 1912-14, librarian, San Diego County (Cal.) Free Library.

Dagmar Holmes, 1912-13, indexer and cataloguer, Helen Frick Art Library, New York City.

Marjorie Holmes, 1913-14, 1917-18, cataloguer, Engineering Societies Library, New York City.

Ethel Holzberg, 1916-17, was married on Thursday, January 20th, to Moses S. Sanders.

Helen Janeway, 1916-18, was married on November 27th, to Henry R. Griffen, jr. Mr. and Mrs. Griffen have sailed for Rio de Janeiro, where Mr. Griffen is engaged in engineering work.

Rose Kahan, 1913-15, cataloguer, Montana State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Bozeman.

Dorothy Puddington and Laurence Lindsey Brown, both of the class which received certificates last June, were married at Madison, New Jersey, on December 28th. Mr. and Mrs. Brown will reside at Princeton, New Jersey, Mr. Brown being on the staff of the reference department at Princeton University.

Helen Salzmann, 1914-16, in charge of Technical Division, New Haven (Conn.) Public Library.

Irene Smith, 1913-15, cataloguer, San Bernardino County (Cal.) Free Library.

Rachel Norton Tryon Stone was married in October to N. Philip Hart. Mr. and Mrs. Hart's address is 887 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Katherine E. Wheeler, 1915-17, was recently married to David Francis Porter.

ter it. It is of the utmost importance that every librarian endeavor to interest young people in library work. It is equally essential that every library school graduate try to turn such young people toward proper training. Entrance examinations to the Library School will be held on Saturday, June 12th, and probably again late in August. Alumni are urged to do their best in recruiting new workers.

EXCHANGE OF LECTURES

A year ago the Pratt Institute School of Library Science invited our own School to hear Mr. Edward F. Stevens' series of lectures on the history of libraries. It has been our pleasure this year to reciprocate by asking the students from Pratt Institute to come to New York for our lectures on library buildings. The invitation from Pratt moreover has been repeated, so that for this year we have a most happy interchange of lectures, which not only tends to economy and effectiveness, but gives the students and faculties of the two schools abundant opportunity to meet and become acquainted.

OPEN COURSES

The open courses offered in 1919-20 proved highly popular. The total registration was 266, the actual number of persons enrolled being 152. This count does not include the *Book Selection* evenings, of which no record was kept; these evenings were opened to all concerned, and the attendance varied from 75 to over 200. In view of the desire on the part of librarians in the field for this opportunity, the open courses will be repeated in the coming year. Alumni are asked to publish this fact to librarians generally, and to make clear the distinction between the open courses and the advanced courses. The open courses are designed as series of lectures for library workers who have had very considerable experience in the field and who are qualified, therefore, to profit by listening to discussions of library methods and problems which are somewhat beyond those ordinarily included in the first year curriculum of any library school. These involve

no outside study and no examinations, and are recognized by no credentials or recommendations on the part of the School. In some cases the open and advanced course groups meet together, but there is always the clear distinction between the two as indicated above.